

September 5, 2007

Jerry Howe Jr., Treasurer All America PAC 607 14th Street NW, Suite 800 Washington, DC 20005

Response Due Date: October 5, 2007

Identification Number: C00344788

Reference:

Mid-Year Report (1/1/07-6/30/07)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action. Additional information is needed for the following 7 items:

1. Schedule A supporting Line 15 of your report discloses a payment(s) from individuals for apparent goods and/or services provided by your committee. Pursuant to Advisory Opinion 1979-18, the sale/purchase price paid to a political committee could involve the receipt of a contribution from a purchaser if the purchase price exceeds the "usual and normal charge". The term "usual and normal charge" for goods is defined as the price of those goods in the market from which they ordinarily would have been purchased at the time of the contribution. Examples of goods and services include equipment, supplies, personnel, advertising services, membership lists, and mailing lists. 11 CFR §100.52(d)(1)

Please clarify whether your committee assessed the usual and normal charge for the goods and/or services you provided and explain the steps your committee took in determining the amount charged. If your committee provided the goods and/or services at more than the usual and normal charge, the difference between the two is considered to be a contribution(s) received by your committee from an individual and may be prohibited subject to the limits set forth at 2 U.S.C. §§441a and 441a(f) or 11 CFR §110.1(d).

2. Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of your report discloses payments to the Evan Bayh Committee for goods and/or services provided by that committee(s). 11 CFR §100.52(d)(1) states that "...the provision of any goods or services without charge or at a charge which is less than the usual and normal charge for such goods or services is a contribution." Examples of goods and services include equipment, supplies, personnel, membership lists and mailing lists. The term "usual and normal charge" for goods is defined as "...the price of those goods in the market from which they ordinarily would have been purchased at the time of the contribution". The usual and normal charge for services is defined as "...the hourly or piecework charge for the services at a commercially reasonable rate prevailing at the time the services were rendered." 11 CFR §100.52(d)(2)

Please clarify whether your committee was assessed the usual and normal charge for the goods and/or services you received and explain the steps the candidate committee took in determining the amount(s) charged to you. If your committee was provided the goods and/or services at less than the usual and normal charge, the difference between the two is considered to be an in-kind contribution by the candidate committee to your committee and is subject to the limits set forth at 2 U.S.C. §441a. (11 CFR §100.52(d)(1))

- 3. Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule B supporting Line(s) 21(b) of your report to clarify the following description(s): Political Consulting Services. For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).
- 4. Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of your report discloses a voided or returned check(s) for an expenditure(s) made during this or a previous reporting period. Please clarify if and when this check(s) was reissued. If it was not reissued, please clarify the steps your committee has taken in order to avoid the acceptance of a prohibited in-kind contribution(s).
- 5. Please clarify all expenditures made for "Reimbursement Food for Event," "Catering, "Reimbursement-Catering" and "Fundraising Consulting Services" on Schedule B. If a portion or all of these expenditures were made on behalf of specifically identified federal candidates, this amount should be disclosed on Schedules B or E supporting Lines 23 or 24 and include the amount, name, address and office sought by each candidate. 11 CFR §§104.3(b) and 106.1
- 6. Schedule B discloses an expenditure(s) for "Mailing List," "Photography Services & Travel," "Reimbursement Postage," "Printing" and "Postage." If a portion or all of these expenditures were for public communications (as

defined by 11 CFR §100.26) or voter drive activity (under 11 CFR §106.6(b)(2)(i)) containing express advocacy as defined under 11 CFR §100.22, this would constitute an in-kind contribution or an independent expenditure and should be properly disclosed on a Schedule B or E supporting Line 23 or 24 as appropriate. Public communications and voter drive activity that refer to a clearly identified Federal candidate, but that do not expressly advocate the election or defeat of that candidate should be reported on Schedule B for Line 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. Please clarify whether this activity contained express advocacy and amend your report to properly disclose this activity, if necessary.

7. Your Mid-Year Report discloses limited payments for administrative expenses. Administrative expenses are payments made for the purpose of operating a political committee including, but not limited to, rent, utilities, salaries, telephone service, office equipment and supplies. Any such payments to a person aggregating in excess of \$200 in a calendar year must be disclosed on Schedule(s) B supporting Line 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(5) If these expenses are being paid by a connected organization, your Statement of Organization must be amended to reflect this relationship. 2 U.S.C. §433(b)(2) In addition, if expenses have been incurred but not paid in a reporting period, the activity should be disclosed as a debt on Schedule D, if the obligation is \$500 or more, or outstanding for sixty days or more. 11 CFR §104.11

Any goods or services provided to your committee by a person, except volunteer activity (i.e., a person's time), would be considered an in-kind contribution from that person, and would be subject to the disclosure requirements of 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(3) and 11 CFR §104.13, and the limitations and prohibitions of 2 U.S.C. §8441a and 441b.

Clarification regarding administrative expenses should be disclosed <u>during</u> <u>each two-year election cycle</u> beginning with the first report filed in the non-election year. Please verify that all expenses referenced above (i.e., rent, salaries, utilities, etc.) have been adequately disclosed. If volunteers have provided these services, please confirm this in writing.

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1136.

Sincerely,

Jodi Winship

Senior Campaign Finance Analyst

Reports Analysis Division

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